AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) In an application server communicatively coupled to a layer-2 gateway device, the layer-2 gateway device and a user device having established therebetween a communications session that supports a first quality of service level, a[[A]] method for managing the[[a]] communications session with established between the layer-2 gateway device and the user[[a]] device, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

establishing, with the device, a communications session that supports a first quality of service level;

receiving, at an application server, a request[[,]] forwarded by associated with the layer-2 gateway device[[,]] that originated from the user device;

wherein the request is a request for a particular application service provided by the application server;

determining, at the application server, based upon the request for the particular application service and policy criteria, a second quality of service level to be supported by the communications session for the device; and

sending a message to the layer-2 gateway device that specifies a quality of service profile for the second quality of service level to be supported by the communications session;

wherein the step of sending a message causes the layer-2 gateway device to make modifying the communications session by causing a layer-2 change in a communications link used for the communications session[[,]] so that communications session for the device supports the second quality of service level instead of the first quality of service level; and

receiving an acknowledgement from the layer-2 gateway device that indicates that a layer-2 change was made in a communications link used for the communications session. including signaling by the application server to change the communications session with the device to support the second quality of service level.

2. (Canceled)

3.   (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 1, <u>wherein the step of sending a
message to the layer-2 gateway device causes a modification of session context data
maintained by the layer-2 gateway device and associated with the communications
session.</u>
~~wherein causing a layer-2 change in a communications link used for the communications
session, so that the communications session for the device supports the second
quality of service level, includes causing the modification of session context data
at a layer-2 gateway.~~

4.   (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 1, <u>further comprising:
sending to the layer-2 gateway device an Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting
Change of Authorization (CoA) message that specifies a quality of service profile
for the second quality of service level.</u>
~~wherein causing a layer-2 change in a communications link used for the communications
session, so that the communications session for the device supports the second
quality of service level, includes generating and sending to a layer-2 gateway an
Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Change of Authorization (CoA)
Request command that specifies a quality of service profile for the second quality
of service level.~~

5.   (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the first and second
quality of service levels each specifies an amount of bandwidth to be allocated to the <u>user</u>
device.

6.   (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the <u>user</u> device is a
wireless device.

7.   (Canceled)

8.   (Currently amended) An <u>application server</u> ~~apparatus~~ <u>capable of being communicatively
coupled to a layer-2 gateway device, the layer 2 gateway device and a user device having
established therebetween a communications session that supports a first quality of service
level,</u> ~~for managing a communications session with a device,~~ the <u>application server</u>
~~apparatus~~ being configured to:

~~establish, with the device, a communications session that supports a first quality of service level;~~

receive~~, at an application server,~~ a request[[,]] <u>forwarded by</u> ~~associated with~~ the <u>layer-2 gateway</u> device[[,]] <u>that originated from the user device;</u>

<u>wherein the request is a request</u> for a <u>particular application</u> service provided by the application server;

determine~~, at the application server,~~ based upon the request for the service and policy criteria, a second quality of service level to be supported by the communications session ~~for the device; and~~

<u>send a message to the layer-2 gateway device that specifies a quality of service profile for the second quality of service level to be supported by the communications session thereby causing the layer-2 gateway device to make</u> ~~modify the communications session by causing~~ a layer-2 change in a communications link used for the communications session[[,]] so that the communications session ~~for the device~~ supports the second quality of service level instead of the first quality of service level<u>; and</u>

<u>receive an acknowledgement from the layer-2 gateway device that indicates that a layer-2 change was made in a communications link used for the communications session.</u> ~~including signaling by the application server to change the communications session with the device to support the second quality of service level.~~

9.   (Canceled)

10.   (Currently amended) The <u>application server</u> ~~apparatus~~ as recited in Claim 8, wherein the <u>application server</u> ~~apparatus~~ is further configured to <u>send a message to the layer 2 gateway device that specifies a quality of service profile for the second quality of service level thereby causing the layer-2 gateway device to modify</u> ~~cause the modification of~~ session context data <u>maintained by the</u> ~~at a~~ layer-2 gateway <u>device and associated with the communications session.</u>

11.   (Currently amended) The <u>application server</u> ~~apparatus~~ as recited in Claim 8, wherein the <u>application server</u> apparatus is further configured to generate and send to <u>the</u>[[a]] layer-2 gateway <u>device</u> an Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Change of

Authorization (CoA) message ~~Request command~~ that specifies a quality of service profile for the second quality of service level.

12.   (Currently amended) The <u>application server</u> ~~apparatus~~ as recited in Claim 8, wherein the first and second quality of service levels each specifies an amount of bandwidth to be allocated to the <u>user</u> device.

13.   (Currently amended) The <u>application server</u> ~~apparatus~~ as recited in Claim 8, wherein the <u>user</u> device is a wireless device.

14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Currently amended) An <u>application server capable of being communicatively coupled to a layer-2 gateway device, the layer-2 gateway device and a user device having established therebetween a communications session that supports a first quality of service level,</u> ~~apparatus for managing a communications session with a device,~~ the <u>application server</u> ~~apparatus~~ comprising:

~~means for establishing, with the device, a communications session that supports a first~~
  ~~quality of service level;~~

means for receiving<u>,</u> ~~at an application server,~~ a request[[,]] <u>forwarded by</u> ~~associated with~~
  the <u>layer-2 gateway</u> device[[,]] <u>that originated from the user device;</u>

<u>wherein the request is a request</u> for a <u>particular application</u> service provided by the
  application server;

means for determining<u>,</u> ~~at the application server,~~ based upon the request for the <u>particular
  application</u> service and policy criteria, a second quality of service level to be
  supported by the communications session ~~for the device~~; ~~and~~

<u>means for sending a message to the layer-2 gateway device that specifies a quality of
  service profile for the second quality of service level to be supported by the
  communications session;</u>

<u>wherein the means for sending a message is operable to cause the layer-2 device gateway
  to make</u> ~~means for modifying the communications session by causing~~ a layer-2
  change in a communications link used for the communications session[[,]] <u>so that</u>
  the communications session ~~for the device~~ supports the second quality of service
  level instead of the first quality of service level<u>; and</u>

means for receiving an acknowledgement from the layer-2 gateway device that indicates that a layer-2 change was made in a communications link used for the communications session. ~~including signaling by the application server to change the communications session with the device to support the second quality of service level.~~

16.   (Canceled)

17.   (Currently amended) The <u>application server</u> ~~apparatus~~ as recited in Claim 15, wherein the <u>means for sending a message</u> ~~apparatus~~ further comprises means for <u>sending a message to the layer-2 gateway device that specifies a quality of service profile for the second quality of service level thereby</u> causing the layer-2 gateway device to modify ~~causing the modification of~~ session context data <u>maintained by the</u> ~~at a~~ layer-2 gateway <u>device and associated with the communications session.</u>

18.   (Currently amended) The <u>application server</u> ~~apparatus~~ as recited in Claim 15, wherein the <u>application server</u> ~~apparatus~~ further comprises means for generating and sending to the[[a]] layer-2 gateway an Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Change of Authorization (CoA) <u>message</u> ~~Request command~~ that specifies a quality of service profile for the second quality of service level.

19.   (Currently amended) The <u>application server</u> ~~apparatus~~ as recited in Claim 18, wherein the <u>application server</u> ~~apparatus~~ further comprises means for specifying the quality of service profile for the second quality of service level using a vendor-specific attribute containing the 3rd Generation Partnership Project 3GPP-Negotiated-QoS attribute.

20.   (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in Claim 15, wherein the first and second quality of service levels each specifies an amount of bandwidth to be allocated to the <u>user</u> device.

21.   (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in Claim 15, wherein the <u>user</u> device is a wireless device.

22.   (Canceled)